THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) to (e) Under the Cement (Quality Control) Order, 2003 issued as per Notification dated 17.2.2003, BIS norms have been made mandatory for ensuring the quality of cement manufactured in the country. Further, the Government has not come across any case where it has been established that the cement companies have manufactured sub-standard cement by not adhering to these norms.

Trade Policy

504. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering the proposal put forwarded by ASSOCHAM for formulation of National/internal trade policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) and (b) A background paper was prepared for a public seminar by the ASSOCHAM entitled "India: A Common Economic Market—Need for a national/internal trade policy". The Paper, *inter alia,* discusses measures to promote domestic trade mainly through uniformity of taxes all over the country. The proposal of introducing a uniform, nation-wide value added tax (VAT) is already under consideration of the Government.

(c) Does not arise.

Plots allotted by NOIDA Export Processing Zone

505. SHRI MURLI DEORA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of export units which were allotted plots/factory by Noida Export Processing Zone;

(b) the number of units in existence as on the 31 st March, 2001 and the number of units which are not functional;

(c) the amount of lease-rent outstanding so far against these units and the number of allotments cancelled; and

(d) the action proposed to be taken in this regard?